

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ERDA-05 OES-03 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 NRC-05 FEA-01 MC-02

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /098 W  
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R 181712Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2983

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T BONN 15335

E.O. 11652: SGDS-3

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, PARM, UR, GW

SUBJECT: FRG REACTOR SALE TO SOVIET UNION

REF: STATE 208142

1. ON RECEIPT OF REFTEL, ECON/COMM MINISTER REVIEWED  
USG POSITION WITH MFA ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
LAUTENSCHLAGER. SUBSEQUENTLY EMBOFFS HAVE HELD  
DISCUSSIONS WITH WORKING LEVELS OF MFA AND ECONMIN  
DURING WHICH USG POLICY, AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL, WAS  
PRESENTED. DISCUSSIONS WITH HOELSCHER IN MFA OFFICE  
OF EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS FAILED TO EVOKE  
SUBSTANTIVE FRG REACTION TO USG POLICY, WHEREAS  
SESSION WITH HAASE OF ECONMIN FOREIGN TRADE  
REGULATION OFFICE, ATTENDED ALSO BY ECONMIN COCOM  
DEPUTY COORDINATOR DEUCHTING, REVEALED SOME INSIGHT  
INTO PRESENT FRG VIEWS ON REACTOR MATTER.

2. HAASE INDICATED AN UNDERSTANDING FOR USG POSITION  
AND AGREED THAT POINTS RAISED THEREIN WERE GENERALLY  
SOUND. HE STATED THAT FRG WOULD TAKE THESE

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CONSIDERATIONS SERIOUSLY WHEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH

SOVIETS RESUMED, PROBABLY IN MID-TO-LATE OCTOBER. PRESENT SCHEDULE, HAASE SAID, CALLS FOR KRAFTWERK UNION SPECIALISTS TO MEET WITH SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES TO RESOLVE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVING CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT AND TRANSMISSION OF ITS POWER. HAASE ADDED THAT AT SAME TIME, OTHER RELATED QUESTIONS, ESPECIALLY SOURCE AND DISPOSITION OF FUEL, WOULD BE TAKEN UP ON A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT BASIS.

3. SPEAKING UNOFFICIALLY, HAASE OPINED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT LIKELY AGREE TO PROVISION WHICH WOULD REQUIRE THAT THEY UTILIZE ONLY DOMESTIC URANIUM. ASIDE FROM THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED FROM IMPORTING WESTERN URANIUM, HAASE CITED FACT THAT USSR HAS FOUND IT CHEAPER TO PURCHASE URANIUM OUTSIDE THE SOVIET UNION THAN TO PROCESS ITS OWN. HE WENT ON TO SPECULATE THAT IF FRG WERE UNABLE TO SUPPLY URANIUM FUEL SOVIETS COULD TURN TO NUMBER OF NON-COCOM WESTERN OR NEUTRAL SUPPLIERS. HAASE FELT, THEREFORE, THAT REFUSAL TO ALLOW SOVIETS TO IMPORT FUEL FOR PLANT FROM FRG WOULD NOT DETER THEM FROM ACQUIRING FUEL FROM OTHER THAN DOMESTIC SOURCES.

4. REGARDING POINT THAT WEAPONS-GRADE PLUTONIUM COULD BE PRODUCED FROM URANIUM FUEL FOR PLANT, HAASE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SOVIETS PROBABLY ALREADY POSSESS HIGH-GRADE PLUTONIUM FAR IN EXCESS OF WHAT THEY MIGHT FEEL NECESSARY FOR WEAPONS PRODUCTION, AND THAT RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNTS WHICH WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE AFTER BULK OF IMPORTED URANIUM HAD BEEN USED TO GENERATE POWER WOULD BE OF MINOR STRATEGIC VALUE.

5. HAASE SAW NO DIFFICULTY IN EXTRACTING A PEACEFUL USES GUARANTEE FROM THE SOVIETS, COMMENTING THAT SOVIETS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PREPARED TO MAKE WHATEVER APPROPRIATE NOISES WERE EXPECTED OF THEM WHEN THEIR OWN INTERESTS WERE AT STAKE.  
CASH.

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